

[Rh(μ -OH)(P*i*Pr₃)₂]₂: Versatile Tool for the Binding of Alkynyl, Diynyl, and Diyndiyl Ligands to an Electron-Rich Rhodium(I) Center[†]

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The reaction of [RhCl(P*i*Pr₃)₂]₂ (**1**) with NaOH under phase-transfer conditions afforded the labile and extremely air-sensitive hydroxorhodium(I) complex [Rh(μ -OH)(P*i*Pr₃)₂]₂ (**2**) in 80% yield. The X-ray crystal structure analysis of **2** confirmed the dimeric nature of the molecule containing a nearly planar Rh₂O₂ unit. Compound **2** reacted with CO to yield *trans*-[Rh(OH)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**4**) and with PhC≡CSiMe₃, in the presence of pyridine or CO, to give *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(py)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**5**) and *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**6**), respectively. Treatment of **4** with Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSiMe₃ yielded the binuclear diyndiyl complex [(P*i*Pr₃)₂(CO)Rh(C≡CC≡C)Rh(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**7**), while the corresponding reaction of **4** with Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSnPh₃ gave the mononuclear product *trans*-[Rh(C≡CC≡CSiMe₃)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**8**). The X-ray crystal structure analysis of **7** revealed the presence of an almost linear Rh–C₄–Rh linkage with the midpoint of the central C–C bond as a crystallographic center of symmetry.

Introduction

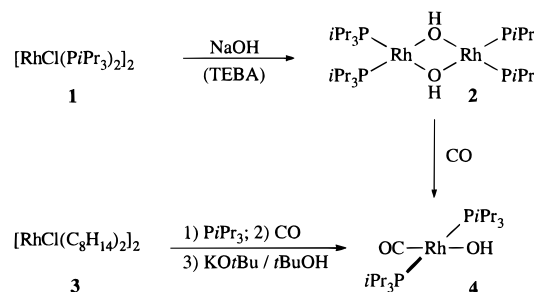
In the search for reactive halide-free bis(triisopropylphosphine)rhodium(I) complexes of general composition [RhX(P*i*Pr₃)₂], we recently described the preparation of [Rh(η^2 -O₂CCH₃)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] and similar (carboxylato)rhodium(I) derivatives.¹ The four-coordinate acetato compound reacts with terminal alkynes HC≡CR (R = Me, Ph) by oxidative addition to give the octahedral complexes [RhH(C≡CR)(η^2 -O₂CCH₃)(P*i*Pr₃)₂], which either thermally or photochemically rearrange to the isomeric vinylidene species *trans*-[Rh(η^1 -O₂CCH₃)(=C=CHR)(P*i*Pr₃)₂].² The synthesis of alkynyl(vinyl)- and alkynyl(butadienyl)rhodium(III) complexes from [Rh(η^2 -O₂CCH₃)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] as starting material has also been reported.³

In continuation of this work we have now prepared the hydroxo derivative [Rh(OH)(P*i*Pr₃)₂]₂ (**2**), which in the solid state is a dimer and which reacts at low temperatures with CO to yield the mononuclear compound *trans*-[Rh(OH)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**4**). Treatment of this highly reactive species with SiMe₃- and SnPh₃-substituted alkynes and diynes provides an entry into the chemistry of alkynyl-, diynyl- and diyndiylrhodium carbonyl complexes.

Results and Discussion

Reaction of the chloro compound **1**⁴ in benzene with 20% aqueous NaOH in the presence of [PhCH₂NEt₃]Cl (TEBA) results in a clean and nearly quantitative formation of the hydroxo complex **2** (Scheme 1). This

Scheme 1



process is somewhat similar to the synthesis of [Rh(OH)(PPh₃)₂]₂ from [RhCl(PPh₃)₃] and KOH, recently reported by Alper et al.,⁵ which also proceeds in benzene/water under biphasic conditions but does not need a phase-transfer catalyst. Compound **2** is an orange, very air-sensitive solid which is soluble in pentane and benzene, almost insoluble in acetone, and decomposes slowly in ether, THF, and chlorinated solvents. Also in the solid state and at room temperature, even under argon, slow decomposition occurs. The ³¹P NMR spectrum of **2** in C₆D₆ displays a doublet at 61.3 ppm with a Rh–P coupling of 183.1 Hz which is almost identical to the *J*(RhP) value of [Rh(OH)(PPh₃)₂]₂ (188 Hz).⁵

The X-ray crystal structure analysis of **2** (Figure 1) confirms the dimeric nature of the molecule in which the two Rh(P*i*Pr₃)₂ moieties are bridged by the hydroxy groups. This situation is similar to that found in both [Rh(OH)(PPh₃)₂]₂⁶ and [Rh(OH)(COD)]₂ (COD = cycloocta-1,5-diene)⁷ as well as in the chloro derivative **1**.^{4b} The angles P1–Rh1–P2 and P3–Rh2–P4 in **2** are 105.68(5) and 105.57(5)°, respectively, and thus signifi-

[†] Dedicated to Professor Jörn Müller on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

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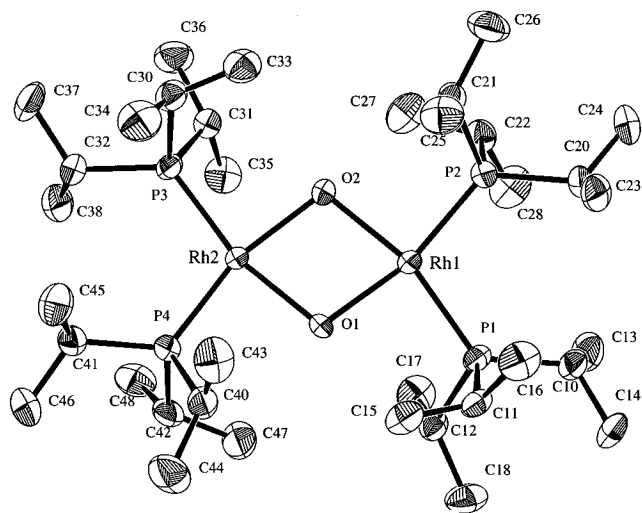


Figure 1.

Table 1. Selected Bond Distances and Angles with Esd's for Compound 2

Bond Distances (Å)			
Rh1–P1	2.241(1)	Rh2–P3	2.238(1)
Rh1–P2	2.233(1)	Rh2–P4	2.229(1)
Rh1–O1	2.127(3)	Rh2–O1	2.106(4)
Rh1–O2	2.110(4)	Rh2–O2	2.122(4)
Rh1–Rh2	3.330(1)		
Bond Angles (deg)			
P1–Rh1–P2	105.68(5)	P3–Rh2–P4	105.57(5)
P1–Rh1–O1	88.1(1)	P3–Rh2–O1	165.1(1)
P1–Rh1–O2	163.9(1)	P3–Rh2–O2	89.4(1)
P2–Rh1–O2	90.4(1)	P4–Rh2–O2	165.1(1)
P2–Rh1–O1	166.2(1)	P4–Rh2–O1	89.1(1)
O1–Rh1–O2	75.9(2)	O1–Rh2–O2	76.1(2)
Rh1–O1–Rh2	103.7(2)	Rh1–O2–Rh2	103.8(2)

cantly larger than in **1** [97.2(1)^o].^{4b} In contrast to **1** and [Rh(OH)(PPh₃)₂]₂, the central Rh₂O₂ core is not completely planar; the oxygen and rhodium atoms deviate by ±0.050(1) Å from the best plane calculated for this unit. The four phosphorus atoms are beneath this plane, the dihedral angle between the planes [P1, Rh1, P2] and [P3, Rh2, P4] being 9.6(1)^o. The Rh–O bond lengths in **2** (mean value 2.116(4) Å; see Table 1) are somewhat larger than in the bis(triphenylphosphine) analogue [2.064(3) and 2.067(3) Å] and the same is true for the Rh–P distances.

The dimeric compound **2** reacts at low temperatures with CO by bridge cleavage to yield the mononuclear carbonyl complex **4** (Scheme 1) which has originally been prepared either from *trans*-[RhCl(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] and NaO*t*Pr in 2-propanol⁸ or from [RhH(P*i*Pr₃)₃] when used as a catalyst in the water-gas shift reaction.⁹ We found that **4** is also accessible by a one-pot synthesis, starting with [RhCl(C₈H₁₄)₂]₂ (**3**) via **1** and *trans*-[RhCl(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂]^{8,10} as intermediates. The final replacement of Cl⁻ by OH⁻ to give **4** proceeds with KO*t*Bu and *tert*-butyl alcohol without using a phase-transfer catalyst.

Most remarkably, both hydroxo compounds **2** and **4** are highly reactive toward silylated and stannylated

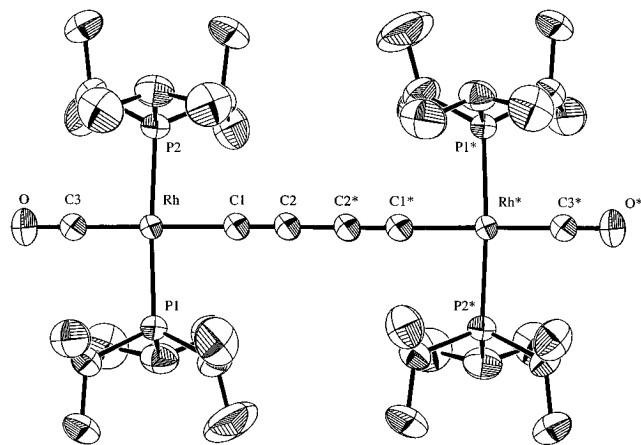
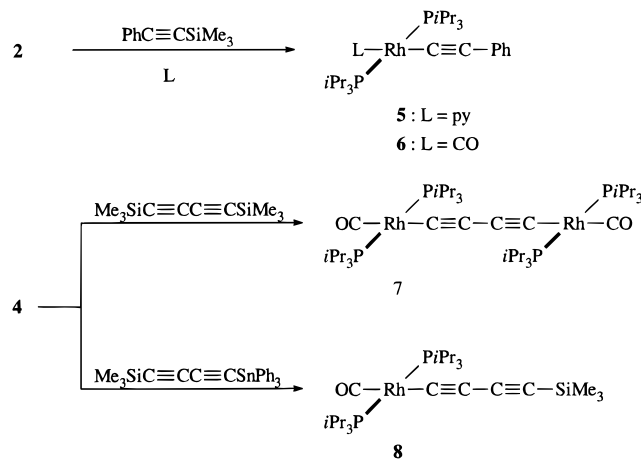


Figure 2.

Scheme 2



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alkynes and are thus excellent precursors for the synthesis of alkynyl-, diyne- and diyndylrhodium(I) derivatives (Scheme 2). Complex **2** reacts with PhC≡CSiMe₃ in the presence of Lewis bases such as pyridine or carbon monoxide to form the mononuclear compounds *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(py)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**5**) and *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**6**), respectively. Other preparative routes to **5** and **6** have already been reported, using either [RhH(C≡CPh)Cl(py)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] or [RhH(C≡CPh)(O₂CCH₃)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] as starting materials.^{2,11}

The hydroxo-carbonyl complex **4**, on treatment with a 0.5 molar equiv of Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSiMe₃, affords the binuclear compound [(P*i*Pr₃)₂(CO)Rh(C≡CC≡C)Rh(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**7**) containing a "naked" C₄ bridge¹² in 75% yield. **7** is a yellow crystalline solid which is moderately air-stable and easily soluble in ether and hydrocarbon solvents. Since the IR and ¹³C NMR spectra of **7** did not conclusively support the structural proposal for **7**, an X-ray crystal structural investigation was carried out. As shown in Figure 2, the two Rh(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂ fragments are bridged by an almost perfectly linear C₄ unit. The midpoint of the C–C single bond of the C₄ bridge lies on a crystallographic center of symmetry, and therefore, only four halves of the molecule are found in the unit cell. As a consequence, both P₂RhCO planes

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Table 2. Selected Bond Distances and Angles with Esd's for Compound 7

Bond Distances (Å)			
Rh–C1	2.021(4)	Rh–P2	2.319(2)
Rh–C3	1.832(4)	C3–O1	1.143(5)
Rh–P1	2.323(2)	C1–C2	1.205(5)
		C2–C2*	1.388(7)
Bond Angles (deg)			
P1–Rh–P2	175.70(3)	C1–Rh–C3	177.8(2)
P1–Rh–C1	88.6(1)	Rh–C1–C2	178.5(4)
P1–Rh–C3	91.7(1)	Rh–C3–O1	178.2(4)
P2–Rh–C1	87.6(1)	C1–C2–C2*	178.9(5)
P2–Rh–C3	92.2(1)		

* The midpoint of the bond C2–C2* is a center of symmetry, and therefore, the corresponding bond distances Rh–C1/Rh*–C1*, etc., and bond angles P1–Rh–P2/P1*–Rh*–P2*, etc., are identical.

lie parallel in the crystal and not perpendicular as one would expect due to the steric demand of the bulky phosphine groups. Not only the Rh–C1–C2 and C1–C2–C2* but also the Rh–C–O linkages are nearly linear while the P1–Rh–P2 axis is slightly bent (see Table 2). The bond lengths of the RhC₄Rh unit are comparable to those found in ReC₄Re¹³ and RuC₄Ru complexes,¹⁴ which have a piano-stool configuration. We note that besides **7** both cationic¹⁵ and neutral¹⁶ binuclear rhodium(III) complexes incorporating a RhC₄Rh linkage are known; however, they contain octahedrally coordinated Rh(III) centers.

From **4** and Ph₃SnC≡CC≡CSiMe₃ as starting materials, the mononuclear diyne metal complex [Rh(C≡CC≡CSiMe₃)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**8**) has been prepared. The silyl–stannyl diyne derivative was obtained via the lithium compound Me₃SiC≡CC≡CLi,¹⁷ which is accessible from Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSiMe₃ and 1 equiv of CH₃Li.¹⁸ In contrast to the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **7**, in which only two slightly overlapping multiplets for the carbon atoms of the C₄ bridge are observed, the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **8** displays four well-separated signals at δ 121.25, 103.0, 93.2, and 77.2 for the carbons of the C₄ chain. The first two of these signals are split into doublets-of-triplets due to Rh–C and P–C coupling. It should be mentioned that *trans*-[Rh(C≡CC≡CPh)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂], an analogue of compound **8**, is known and has recently been synthesized by stepwise treatment of [Rh(η²-CH₂C₆H₅)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] with CO and HC≡CC≡CPh.¹⁹

In summary, we have established a new route for the preparation of square-planar alkynyl-, diyne- and diyndylrhodium(I) complexes using either the highly reactive binuclear hydroxo-bridged species **2** or the corresponding mononuclear carbonyl derivative **4** as starting materials. The propensity of hydroxorhodium compounds to react with acidic substrates by forming new rhodium–element bonds has already been il-

lustrated by Alper et al.,⁵ who prepared [C₅H₅Rh(PPh₃)₂], [Rh(μ-O₂CPh)(PPh₃)₂], and in particular the heterobinuclear complexes [(PPh₃)₂Rh(μ-CO)₂M(CO)-C₅H₅] (M = Cr, Mo, W) from [Rh(μ-OH)(PPh₃)₂].

Experimental Section

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of argon by use of Schlenk tube techniques. The starting materials [RhCl(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (**1**),^{4a} [RhCl(C₈H₁₄)₂] (**3**),²⁰ and Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSnPh₃¹⁷ were prepared as described in the literature. PhC≡CSiMe₃ and Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSiMe₃ were commercial products from Aldrich and ABCR. NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on Varian 360 EM, Jeol FX 90 Q, Bruker AC 200, and Bruker AMX 400 instruments, and IR spectra on a Perkin-Elmer 1420 infrared spectrophotometer. Melting points were determined by DTA.

Preparation of [Rh(μ-OH)(P*i*Pr₃)₂]₂ (2**).** A solution of **1** (160 mg, 0.17 mmol) in 10 mL of benzene was treated with 5 mL of 20% aqueous NaOH (saturated with argon) and TEBA (10 mg). Upon stirring of the reaction mixture for 20 min at room temperature, a change of color from violet to orange occurred. The organic phase was separated, washed with 5 mL of degassed H₂O, and then brought to dryness in vacuo. After the residue was extracted with 20 mL of pentane and the solvent removed from the extract, an orange solid was obtained: yield 123 mg (80%); mp 107 °C dec; ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 200 MHz) δ 2.00 (m, 6H, PCHCH₃), 1.40 [dd, *J*(PH) = 11.6, *J*(HH) = 7.3 Hz, 36H, PCHCH₃], –2.77 (s, br, 1H, OH); ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 81.0 MHz) δ 61.3 [d, *J*(RhP) = 183.1 Hz].

Preparation of *trans*-[Rh(OH)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (4**).** **Method a.** A solution of **2** (138 mg, 0.16 mmol) in 5 mL of pentane was stirred at –78 °C under a CO atmosphere. After 2–3 min an almost white solid precipitated, which was separated from the mother liquor, washed three times with 3 mL of pentane each, and dried: yield 139 mg (95%).

Method b. A suspension of **3** (272 mg, 0.38 mmol) in 7 mL of acetone was treated with P*i*Pr₃ (435 μL, 365 mg, 2.28 mmol) and stirred for 10 min at room temperature. A violet precipitate (consisting of **1**) was formed, which was separated from the solution, washed three times with 3 mL of acetone (0 °C) each, and then dissolved in 8 mL of benzene. Upon passing CO through this solution for 10–15 sec, a change of color from violet to pale yellow occurred. The solution was treated with KO^tBu (0.1 g, 1.0 mmol) and 1 mL of *t*BuOH and stirred for 16 h at room temperature. Thereafter, 3 mL of degassed H₂O was added, the two phases were separated, and the organic phase was washed twice with 3 mL of H₂O each and then filtered. The filtrate was brought to dryness in vacuo, and the residue was repeatedly washed with pentane and dried: yield 258 mg (72%). Compound **4** was identified by comparison of the ¹H NMR spectrum with published data.⁹ ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 36.2 MHz): δ 50.35 [d, *J*(RhP) = 136.3 Hz].

Formation of *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(py)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (5**) from **2**.** To a solution of **2** (50 mg, 0.06 mmol) in 0.5 mL of C₆D₆, placed in an NMR tube, was added PhC≡CSiMe₃ (20 μL, 0.10 mmol) and excess of pyridine (ca. 20 μL). After 24 h at room temperature, the ³¹P NMR spectrum (36.2 MHz) displayed a doublet at 41.1 ppm [*J*(RhP) = 150.9 Hz] which by comparison was shown to correspond to **5**;¹¹ the yield was nearly quantitative.

Formation of *trans*-[Rh(C≡CPh)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (6**) from **2**.** A solution of **2** (50 mg, 0.06 mmol) in 0.5 mL of C₆D₆, placed in an NMR tube, was treated with PhC≡CSiMe₃ (20 μL, 0.10 mmol) at room temperature. After argon was replaced by CO, the tube was sealed and stored for 4 h at 40 °C. The ³¹P NMR spectrum (36.2 MHz) then displayed a doublet at 53.7 ppm [*J*(RhP) = 126.0 Hz] which by comparison was shown to correspond to **6**² with a yield nearly quantitative.

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Table 3. Crystallographic Data for **2** and **7**

	C ₃₆ H ₈₆ O ₂ P ₄ Rh ₂ (2)	C ₄₂ H ₈₄ O ₂ P ₄ Rh ₂ (7)
formula	C ₃₆ H ₈₆ O ₂ P ₄ Rh ₂ (2)	C ₄₂ H ₈₄ O ₂ P ₄ Rh ₂ (7)
fw	880.75	950.80
cryst size, mm ³	0.48 × 0.43 × 0.55	0.20 × 0.30 × 0.30
cryst syst	monoclinic	monoclinic
space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i> (No. 14)	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i> (No. 14)
cell dimens determ	25 reflns, 10° < θ < 16°	25 reflns, 8° < θ < 19°
<i>a</i> , Å	13.218(3)	11.430(9)
<i>b</i> , Å	16.275(3)	17.181(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	21.712(3)	13.012(8)
β , deg	104.730(4)	103.87(3)
<i>V</i> , Å ³	4517(2)	2481(2)
<i>Z</i>	4	2 (¹ / ₂)
<i>d</i> _{calcd} , g cm ⁻³	1.295	1.273
diffractometer		Enraf Nonius CAD4
radiation (λ , Å)		Mo K α (0.709 30)
filter factor (Zr filter)	16.4	15.4
temp, °C	-50(2)	+20(2)
μ , mm ⁻¹	0.890	0.816
scan method	ω/θ	ω/θ
2 θ (max), deg	42	50
tot. no. of reflns scanned	4564	4558
no. of unique reflns	4302 [<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0426]	4328 [<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0658]
no. of obsd reflns [<i>I</i> > 2(<i>I</i>)]	3676	3588
no. of reflns used for refinement	4294	4327
no. of params refined	403	238
final <i>R</i> indices [<i>I</i> > 2(<i>I</i>)]	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0258 ^a <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0686	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0348 ^a <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0927
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0408 <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0836 ^b	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0512 <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.1033 ^b
reflns:param ratio	10.7	18.2
resid electron density, e Å ⁻³	0.386/-0.370	0.790/-0.752

^a Conventional *R*-factor: $R1 = \sum |F_o - F_c| / \sum F_o$ [for $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$]. ^b Weighted *R*-factor: $wR2 = \{ \sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)] / \sum [w(F_o^2)] \}^{1/2}$, with $w^{-1} = \sigma^2(F_o)^2 + 0.0326P^2 + 7.1252P$ (**2**) and $w^{-1} = \sigma^2(F_o)^2 + 0.0604P^2 + 1.042P$ (**7**), where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$.

Preparation of *trans,trans*-(P*i*Pr₃)₂(CO)Rh(C≡CC≡C)-Rh(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂ (7**).** A solution of **4** (150 mg, 0.32 mmol) in 3 mL of methanol was treated with Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSiMe₃ (31 mg, 0.16 mmol) at room temperature and then heated for 1 min under reflux. After the solution was cooled to room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was dissolved in 2 mL of acetone. Upon storing of this solution for 15 h at -78 °C, yellow crystals precipitated, which were filtered out, washed with 2 mL of acetone (-20 °C), and dried: yield 115 mg (75%); mp 128 °C dec; IR (KBr) ν (CO) 1934 cm⁻¹, ν (C≡C) not exactly located; ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 400 MHz) δ 2.50 (m, 6H, PCHCH₃), 1.36 [dvt, *N* = 14.0, *J*(HH) = 7.2 Hz, 36H, PCHCH₃]; ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆, 100.6 MHz) δ 196.0 [dt, *J*(RhC) = 58.4, *J*(PC) = 12.6 Hz, RhCO], 109.5, 108.1 (both m, RhC≡C and RhC≡C), 26.3 [vt, *N* = 22.0 Hz, PCHCH₃], 20.6 (s, PCHCH₃); ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 162.0 MHz) δ 54.1 [d, *J*(RhP) = 128.0 Hz]. Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₈₄O₂P₄Rh₂: C, 53.05; H, 8.90; Rh, 21.65. Found: C, 53.06; H 9.17; Rh, 20.61.

Preparation of *trans*-[Rh(C≡CC≡CSiMe₃)(CO)(P*i*Pr₃)₂] (8**).** A solution of **4** (120 mg, 0.26 mmol) in 5 mL of benzene was treated with Me₃SiC≡CC≡CSnPh₃ (123 mg, 0.26 mmol) at room temperature and then heated for 1–2 min to 80 °C. After being cooled to room temperature the solution was worked up as described for **7**: yellow microcrystalline solid; yield 86 mg (58%); mp 64 °C dec; IR (KBr) ν (C≡C) 2150, 2105, ν (CO) 1940 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 400 MHz) δ 2.39 (m, 6H, PCHCH₃), 1.21 [dvt, *N* = 14.0, *J*(HH) = 7.2 Hz, 36H, PCHCH₃], 0.08 (s, 9H, SiMe₃); ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆, 100.6 MHz) δ 195.9 [dt, *J*(RhC) = 72.4, *J*(PC) = 13.1 Hz, RhCO], 121.25 [dt, *J*(RhC) = 43.3, *J*(PC) = 22.1 Hz, RhC≡C], 103.0 [dt, *J*(RhC) = 13.1, *J*(PC) = 2.5 Hz, RhC≡C], 93.2, 77.2 (both s, br, RhC≡CC≡C and CSiMe₃), 26.3 [vt, *N* = 21.6 Hz, PCHCH₃], 20.35 (s, PCHCH₃), 0.5 (s, SiMe₃); ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 162.0 MHz)

δ 53.6 [d, *J*(RhP) = 125.2 Hz]. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₅₁OP₂-RhSi: C, 54.54; H, 8.98; Rh, 17.97. Found: C, 54.70; H 8.68; Rh, 18.25.

X-ray Structural Analyses of **2 and **7**.** Single crystals were grown from hexane (**2**) and toluene (**7**). Crystal data collection parameters are summarized in Table 3. Intensity data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects; for **2** a linear decay (loss of gain -6.2%) was taken into consideration. The structures were solved by direct methods (SHELXS-86). The positions of the hydrogen atoms (with the exception of O-H) were calculated according to ideal geometry (distance of C-H set at 0.95 Å) and were refined by the riding method. Atomic coordinates and anisotropic thermal parameters of the non-hydrogen atoms were refined by full-matrix least squares on *F*² (SHELXL-93). For other details see Table 3.

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Supporting Information Available: Tables of data collection parameters, bond lengths and angles, positional and thermal parameters, and least-squares planes for **2** and **7** (13 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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